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Iberoamérica

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cultural values of language study are, to most of us, the lasting contribution to the student mind, and we have found that they do not preclude the utilitarian value, which perforce accompanies them.

As teachers of a humanistic subject whose

cultural worth we fully believe in, let us all choose with care our materials for study, in order to give to students at every level subject matter worthy of their time and of their intellectual possibilities.

*Mills College*

MARTHA E. ALLEN

### IBEROAMÉRICA

Le ruego publique estas líneas que le dirijo como autor del libro *Iberoamérica*, al que se refiere el Prof. R. L. Predmore en el número de Marzo de su revista.

Felicito al Prof. Predmore por su meticuloso trabajo de corrección gramatical a través de los seis primeros capítulos de mi obra, que suponen unas 35.000 palabras; y le agradezco la relación incompleta de erratas que menciona, me será muy útil en futuras ediciones. El Prof. Predmore ha aprendido bastante bien la gramática española; tiene razón, los adjetivos deben concordar en género y número con los nombres y por tanto debe decirse "sus hombres" y "algunas especies de perros." También conoce bien la geografía elemental, Terranova está en la costa oriental de América. Pero le aconsejo seguir leyendo libros escritos por autores españoles para familiarizarse mejor con el juego de los pretéritos y ciertos giros idiomáticos que al parecer no comprende todavía.

Ahora bien, señor Director, tengo la impresión de que sus lectores se han quedado sin enterarse del contenido de mi libro de texto. Por eso me permito transcribirle las primeras críticas bibliográficas que ha merecido en varias revistas técnicas norteamericanas:

*Hispanic American Report*, Universidad de Stanford, California: "... This is an excellent reference work and deserves wide circulation in universities and colleges. The sections on the current scene naturally go out of date fairly quickly. Jesus de Galindez has a brilliant, restless mind. He has exercised remarkable self-control in writing a quiet textbook. This reviewer would be happy to see him write another book in which he would let himself go."

*Journal of International Affairs*, Columbia University, New York: "... The author, after providing a geographical introduction to the area, follows the standard historical evolutionary approach. To this, he has added, very creditably, pertinent analyses of the

socio-economic, political and cultural life of each era. As a result, the reader obtains a competent over-all view, one which has been too long omitted by other authors. This book is everything its title can lead one to hope for. It is recommended to all as an excellent survey of Latin America and the problems of this region."

*The Journal of Politics*, Universidad de Florida, Gainesville, Fla.: "... Perhaps because he is neither a Latin American nor a citizen of the United States, the author brings a fresh eye to his study. He has lived in various parts of the continent, travelled over most of it, and numbers many of the important figures of both Americas among his friends. He writes with a sympathetic comprehension of life which gives the reader not only a mass of information, but also an understanding of the basic forces which mold society in what he calls "Iberoamérica." This attention of the vital forces molding life in the area makes this book more than the collection of "facts" found in most text books. ... This is an excellent book which will be of use to scholars and students. The statistical information will quickly become dated, but the broad general picture presented by Dr. Galindez will aid his readers to understand Latin America. The writer strongly recommends this book to all."

Muchas gracias, señor Director. Lamento no tener tiempo para seguir los cursos de gramática del Prof. Predmore; mis estudios se concentran desde hace años en las ciencias sociales, aunque de vez en cuando haga escaramuzas en el campo literario donde me he ganado más de un premio. Aprendí español en la cuna, y he forjado mi estilo personal leyendo y escribiendo mucho; no es ésta la primera vez que siento "tentaciones del demonio" y escribo un libro, ya me han publicado una docena, y mi colaboración regular aparece en muchas revistas y periódicos de las Américas y Europa.

JESÚS DE GALÍNDEZ

*Columbia Univ.*

Understandably, Mr. Galíndez is unhappy about the review I wrote of his book *Iberoamérica*. Probably he won't believe it, but I am unhappy, too. It gives me no pleasure to write so harsh a review, but the fact remains that his text is unbelievably burdened with errata and examples of faulty syntax and awkward rhetoric. Should there be a demand for the future editions alluded to by Mr. Galíndez, he will need to correct some ten times the number of mistakes listed by me. As nearly as I can judge from his letter, he would not be disposed to deny this but merely to think it unimportant. I suppose this is the implication of his ironical praise of my grammatical competence. I am content not to argue with

him the question of whether or not a book should measure up to some minimum standard of literary expression.

I am glad that at least three reviewers seem to like Mr. Galíndez's book. If their estimate of its worth is fairer than mine, he has nothing to worry about. There is no reason to doubt that *Iberoamérica* will soon find the place it deserves. In the meantime, I shall certainly follow Mr. Galíndez's advice to keep reading books by Spanish authors. In exchange, all I ask of him is that he ponder briefly the message conveyed by the old Spanish saying, "peor es meneallo."

R. L. PREDMORE

*Duke University*

## OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: OFFICERS FOR 1956

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The Nominating Committee presents the slate of Officers and Executive Council members for 1956, listed below with biographical data. The Secretary will distribute the ballot with the dues cards in October.

Esther R. Brown  
Beatrice E. Eckberg  
T. Earle Hamilton  
S. N. Treviño  
Gerald E. Wade  
Willis Knapp Jones, *Chairman*

#### *President*

AGNES MARIE BRADY, Univ. of Kansas. Member since 1920. Past Third Vice-President, Second Vice-President, First Vice-President, AATSP. Chapter Adviser 1947-54; Director of Placement Bureau 1950-; Associate Editor *Hispania* 1950-54. Past president Kansas Chapter. A.B. 1919, M.A. 1920, Univ. of Kansas. Other graduate work: Columbia Univ., Univ. of Chicago, Univ. of Mexico, Univ. of Madrid, Sorbonne. Career: Univ. of Kansas, 1920-28; Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, 1930-42; Bucknell Univ., 1943-45; Univ. of Kansas, 1946-. Assoc. Prof. of Romance Languages and Education. MLA, Sigma Delta Pi (First Vice-President), Pi Lambda Theta. Regional representative of MLA-FL Program. Author: *Pan American Spanish* (N. Y., 1941). Co-author: *Spanish Letter Writing* (Boston, 1942). Editor: *Five One-act Spanish Plays* (N. Y., 1932); *Dos pasos de comedia* (Dallas, 1933); *La ilustre fregona* (Dallas, 1934); *Quintero: Cuento y comedia* (N. Y., 1935); *Christmastide* (Dallas, 1937); Quintero's *El Centenario y doña Hormiga* (N. Y., 1950). Co-editor: *Classical Spanish Readings* (N. Y., 1938); *Romantic Spanish Readings* (N. Y., 1939); *Cuentos y comedias de América* (Boston, 1950); *Cuentos y comedias de España* (Boston, 1952); Amorim's *El asesino desvelado* (Boston, 1952). Originator of Kansas plan of teaching Spanish in